

B1

~~3.~~ (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay comprises opposing marginal edges which extend laterally beyond lateral edges of the belt structure.

~~3.~~ (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the high-modulus reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay are made of high-modulus material selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon, rayon, aramid and glass.

4. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay is located on the tensile side of the neutral bending axis of the combined belt structure, fabric underlay and ply structure.

B2

~~5.~~ (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 4 in which the cords of the fabric underlay are circumferentially oriented and are prestressed in tension during manufacturing of the tire.

6. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the fabric underlay increases a web width between the belt structure and the ply structure.

7. (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which the reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay are oriented at an angle of 0 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane of the tire.

8. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 in which a fabric overlay is disposed between the belt structure and the tread.

B3

~~9.~~ (TWICE AMENDED) The tire of claim 1 wherein at least one of the radial plies is reinforced by essentially inextensible cords.

10. (TWICE AMENDED) A method of constructing a radial ply tire by the steps of:  
a) forming a blown-up green tire carcass;  
b) circumferentially wrapping a ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material upon the blown-up green tire carcass to form the fabric underlay so that the cords of the elastomeric material are oriented at an angle of about 0 degrees to about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane of the blown-up green carcass;

**B3**

- c) blowing up the blown-up green tire carcass with the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material to engage a belt structure and a tread to form a completed green tire; and
- d) blowing up the completed green tire in a curing mold to prestress the reinforcing cords of the fabric underlay.

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11. The method of claim 10 further including the step of circumferentially winding the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material about the blown-up green carcass such that the edges of the ribbon overlap.

12. The method of claim 10 further including the step of circumferentially winding the edges of the ribbon of cord-reinforced elastomeric material about the blown-up carcass such that the edges of the ribbon meet without overlapping.

Please ADD the following:

**B4**

13. The method of claim 11 wherein the reinforcement cords are disposed at an angle of between about 0 degrees and about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the reinforcement cords are disposed at an angle of between about 0 degrees and about 5 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

15. The method of claim 10 wherein the cord-reinforced elastomeric material is wrapped upon the blown-up green carcass as a single ply having approximately the width of the tread.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined between about 0 degrees and about 30 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined between about 0 degrees and about 20 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the reinforcement cords are inclined at about 0 degrees with respect to the equatorial plane (EP) of the tire.